

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT
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Lt. Gov. Sheehy Presents Nebraska Governor Points of Light Volunteer Awards

(Lincoln, Neb.) Lieutenant Gov. Rick Sheehy will present the Nebraska Governor's Points of Light Awards at a proclamation ceremony Thursday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the Warner Chamber at the State Capitol in Lincoln. The awards are presented quarterly in recognition of volunteers who give their time, talent and energy to help Nebraskans build stronger communities.

This quarter's winners:

ADULT CATEGORY:

Dave Burgess – Omaha, Nebraska

Dave Burgess, an AmeriCorps member in the Munroe-Meyer Institute AmeriCorps program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center has worked tirelessly to establish the S.A.N.D.S. (Sportsmen and women Assisting Nebraska's Disabled Sportsmen and women) Program. Through a partnership with the Nebraska Games and Parks Commission, Dave has developed a clearing house website that has helped recruit more than 45 individuals who have volunteered their time to assist sportsmen with disabilities. Dave is also involved in planning events for the program, including fishing tournaments and hunting trips that provide accommodations for disabled participants. Dave obtained grant money and corporate sponsorship to promote the program and ensure its sustainability when he recognized that limited funding was available. He is the embodiment of community service and citizenship. Despite numerous physical obstacles and little initial support for this program, Dave Burgess continues to work on improving the lives of Nebraskans with disabilities.

GROUP CATEGORY:

Superior Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter – Superior, Nebraska

The Superior FFA Chapter is a hardworking, dedicated and motivated group of youth. When highlighting how these youths are involved with their local community, it might be quicker and easier to list those programs with which they're not involved. When the Superior community needs assistance with a project, this group is usually the first to be contacted. Over the past year they have participated in a community-wide recycling program at Superior High School; assisted in conducting a Memorial weekend Petting Zoo; promoted the Nuckolls County "Relay for Life" event, conducted a Food, Field and Floral Show; directed a Harvest Safely promotion; initiated the KOLN-TV Can Care-A-Van project for the Nuckolls County Food Pantry and annually collect Christmas trees to recycle into wildlife brush piles. This FFA Chapter is definitely a point of light in Nebraska, and a "superior" group of volunteers.

Each quarter, Commissioners from the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission review award nominations and make final recommendations to the Governor. The awards are sponsored by Woodmen of the World.

To nominate individuals and groups who have made a difference through volunteerism for a Governor's Points of Light Award, please visit <http://www.nvsc.ne.gov> to obtain a nomination form and instructions, or contact 402-471-6225 or (800) 291-8911 to request information.

The Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission was established in 1994 to promote, mobilize, and support the efforts of all Nebraskans who are united in strengthening their communities, state and nation through volunteer and community service.

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